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THE CYCLE SCHEDULE IN MOSCOW BASIN MINE OPERATION

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Mine No 26 of the Donskoyugol' Trust of the Moskvougol' Combine is working a lignite seam ranging from 1.0-2.2 meters in thickness and lying in a horizontal position at a depth of 50-60 meters. The usual Moscow Basin hydrogeological conditions prevail in this mine which uses the long-pillar system of mining with subsequent removal of the pillars at twin mine faces 40-50 meters in length. Coal is transported by scraper and belt conveyers along drift No 21 to the main haulage drift.

At mine faces No 19 and 21 coal cutting is carried out by GTK-3M cutting machines with a bar 1.65 meters long. At both faces, No 19 and 21, coal is extracted at the same time. After the faces have been undercut, two brigades break up the coal with OMSP-5 pneumatic drills and load it onto ST3-6 scraper conveyers. Coal is moved from the faces to drift No 21 scraper conveyer and from here to the RTU-30 belt conveyer. In the main haulage drift it is loaded into one-ton mine cars. The faces are propped by wooden frames 0.5 meter apart which are set up as the coal is removed and are parallel to the face. After the first layer of coal has been removed, these parallel props are reinforced by props which are perpendicular to the mine face.

The cycle work schedule is in operation in this mine and one cycle is completed each 24 hours. A brigade of nine or ten persons is engaged in removing coal from the mine face and four persons are employed to prop the mine face. During the second cutting, six persons are used to prop the conveyer passage. All of the preliminary operations are carried on simultaneously rather than consecutively and can therefore be completed in 8 hours.

The daily coal output from mine faces has increased to 420 tons and the productivity of the cutting machine is 6,000-6,400 tons per month. The mine face advances on an average of 50 meters per month.

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Idle time during a work shift was greatly reduced after the introduction of the cycle schedule of work as is shown in the following table:

Working Period	Actual Time Worked	Idle Time per Shift	Percentage of Time Worked
Before introduction of cycle schedule	5 hr 2 min	2 hr 48 min	63.0
During first quarter 1950	6 " 46 "	1 " 14 "	84.6

All working sections of the mine have begun to exceed their norms. Regulation of mine transport has contributed to the improvement of work at the mine faces. The roads have been repaired, and haulage drifts have been cleared and lighted. Idle time caused by a lack of empty railroad cars has been decreased from 1 hour and 20 minutes per shift to 45 minutes or approximately 44 percent.

Since the hydrogeological conditions of Mine No 26 are typical of the Moscow Basin, many other Moscow Basin coal mine sections could and should operate in the same way as Mine No 26.

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